# COMMANDERS DIGEST

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE • WASHINGTON, D.C.

Vol. 2, No. 58 July 20, 1966

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## President Signs $17.4 Billion Defense Appropriation Bill

The appropriations bill signed by President Johnson July 13 not only included a 3.2 percent across the board pay increase but also authorized funds for Defense-wide procurement and research development for FY67.

Besides the pay raise, retroactive to July 1, the $17.4 billion authorization measure includes funds for purchase of missiles, aircraft, naval vessels, tracked combat vehicles and other related equipment.

The total authorization includes more than $7 billion for research, development, test, and evaluation.

The bill provides Air Force funds for procurement or maintaining a production capability of the F-12 interceptor aircraft and $25 million for procurement of the CX-2 aircraft, a command transport.

Included in the authorizations are funds to be used only for R&D related to the Advanced Manned Strategic Aircraft, and the Manned Orbiting Laboratory.

Also, $130.5 million is authorized only for the construction of the nuclear powered guided missile frigate for which funds were authorized earlier and $20 million for procurement of long lead-time items for an additional nuclear powered guided missile frigate.

Included in Army funds was authorization for preproduction activities on the Nike-X antiballistic missile system.

## Viet Cong Monsoon Offensive Hampered by Allied Operations

Viet Cong monsoon operations are being spoiled by continuing allied ground attacks and constant air strikes on supply lines and guerrilla strongholds.

U.S. officials point out U.S. ground forces have staged 20 successful ground operations since April 1 involving multi-battalion strength. They also cite a total of 3,300 battalion-size or greater operations by Republic of Vietnam ground forces since Jan. 1.

As for air strikes, officials credit Air Force and Navy interdiction attacks on supply lines and B-52 raids on redoubts as causing a 50 percent logistical shortage in many VC units.

*VISIT TO KOREA—Under Secretary of the Army David E. McGiffert is greeted by Gen. Yong Bae Kim (right), Republic of Korea Army Chief of Staff, and Lt. Gen. C. W. G. Rich, USA, Deputy CG, U.S. 8th Army, upon Mr. McGiffert's arrival in Korea for talks with U.S. and Republic of Korea military and government officials.*

## Former 7th AF Commander Assesses NVN Air Strikes

Former Commander of the U.S. Seventh Air Force in South Vietnam, Lt. Gen. Joseph H. Moore, believes continued selective bombing of militarily significant targets in North Vietnam "should convince the Hanoi Government to consider some form of disengagement."

He noted it was too early to tell effects of recent bombing of petroleum depots on the outskirts of Hanoi and Haiphong.

Gen. Moore spent two-and-one-half years in Vietnam, working closely with the South Vietnamese Air Force. He is now Vice Commander in Chief, Pacific Air Forces, Hickam AFB, Hawaii.

"I feel we have turned a significant corner in South Vietnam," the general explained.

Gen. Moore said enemy forces in SVN and their logistic lifeline from the north, although still dangerous, have suffered severe setbacks.

He noted air strikes by U.S. aircraft have made the railroad lines south of Hanoi ineffective.

Gen. Moore emphasized resources are available and "we have the capability of hitting anything" when ordered.

# Washington Memos

NEW VICE COMMANDER in Chief of PACAF, Lt. Gen. Joseph H. Moore said, "There is no longer any question as to the success of the fighter-tanker concept." He was talking about first test of tactical refueling in combat area taking place in Vietnam. He noted, "Without tankers our tactical operations in RVN would be significantly less effective." He had high praise for SAC crews.

GEN. MOORE COMPLIMENTED rescue operations, noting that since January of this year Air Force and Naval rescue forces have succeeded in 90 percent of their rescue attempts.

"SPACE AVAILABLE IS UNAVAILABLE" tells in short, concise sentence story of a serviceman's chances these days to hitch a ride aboard Military Airlift Command transport planes. MAC officials point out they are booking only those with orders on overseas aircraft and "over-booking" to insure efficiency. Commanders should caution personnel they will be losing leave time and money by sitting around MAC port-of-embarkation air terminals hoping for non-existent space available seats.

DOMESTIC USA AIR-TRAVEL for personnel on "combat leave" status going to or from Vietnam is, however, moving thousands of servicemen stranded because of machinist strike against five major airlines. More than 40 Air National Guard and Air Reserve troop carriers have been detailed to this service, airlifting more than 6,021 servicemen during strike's early days.

DOD CASUALTY FIGURES reveal 4,239 U.S. service personnel lost their lives through hostile actions in Vietnam from Jan. 1, 1961 through July 9, 1966. An additional 23,411 have been wounded. Nonhostile actions claimed lives of 897.

1ST LOGISTICAL COMMAND'S in-country rest and recuperation (R&R) center, located in delta coastal town of Vung Tau, 45 miles southeast of Saigon, is expanding facilities to accommodate up to 2,500 soldiers monthly. Col. Leonard J. Hempling, commanding officer of Log's Vung Tau Sub Area Command, says plans call for construction of new rest hotel annex, beach pavillion and snack bar.

ARMY'S STRATEGIC COMMUNICATIONS Command (STRATCOM), announced establishment of a general staff structure at headquarters offices in Washington, D.C. Move was made to help STRATCOM headquarters meet expanding responsibilities.

ACTION AUTOMATICALLY CHANGES directorate type of headquarters operation to general and special staff complex. Under reorganization now in effect, STRATCOM's headquarters embrace five General Staff and six Special Staff elements together with three Action Departments.

PROTOTYPE CLOSED CIRCUIT television camera-video tape recorder installed in a B-52 bomber to assess bombing patterns and accuracy. Two units of Air Force Logistics Command teamed up with Strategic Air Command to install equipment, nicknamed "Ready Eye."

CAMERA USES ZOOM LENS with remote focusing capability. Excellent close-up pictures of weapon trajectory and impact areas are produced by "Ready Eye." Video recording capability produces immediate tape documentation upon return from mission.

AIR FORCE CHIEF OF STAFF told Reserve Officers Assn. training activity which has consistently contributed most to active force has been cargo airlift by Air Reserve and Air National Guard. First five months this year they carried nearly 14,000 tons of cargo to bases throughout world. Figure represents almost 8 per cent of all cargo transported by Military Airlift command, and this month MAC laid on 450 offshore missions for Air Reserve and Air National Guard.

NAVY DEDICATED IMPRESSIVE new tactical trainer building at U.S. Fleet Anti-Submarine Warfare School, San Diego, Calif. Building contains two sophisticated and intelligent anti-submarine warfare (ASW) devices, the Coordinated ASW Tactical Trainer, and the Surface Ship ASW Attack Trainer.

TWELVE MILLION DOLLAR complex contains most advanced electronic components that industry can provide. Trainers are computer controlled and provide valuable training for ASW Task Group Commander, as well as ranging down to petty officer who releases the weapon against "enemy" submarine.

AIRMAN PROMOTION PICTURE is going to the field. Air Force is releasing an orientation film on the subject and is sending field commanders detailed briefing program. Basically, Air Force study emphasizes "whole man concept" and is designed to improve grade manning in career field and in overall grade ceiling.

DEFENSE SUPPLY AGENCY has ordered 5,000 pairs of machine washable, flame resistant summer flying gloves for evaluation. Gloves were developed with Navy collaboration for fire protection, comfort and good gripping capability in water survival situation. They are also designed for easy removal under emergency conditions and for "touch sensitivity" allowing pilots to manipulate aircraft controls.

LARGE JUNE TOTALS in passenger traffic, aircraft handled and cargo movement at Travis AFB, Calif., have boosted FY66 records there more than a third above any comparable 12-month period. Travis terminal processed more people to and from Southeast Asia and other areas than ever before—79,092 passengers during June—third successive month base topped previous all-time airlift high.

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# Legislation Seeks Leave For Voluntary RVN Extendees

Defense has no present intention of changing the 12-month Republic of Vietnam tour, according to Congressional testimony by Brig. Gen. William W. Berg, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Manpower).

Gen. Berg appeared before Subcommittee No. 3, House Armed Services Committee, concerning a bill that could provide 30-day leaves and transportation to voluntary extendees in hostile fire areas.

The bill's intent is to provide those in RVN an incentive to voluntarily extend their duty tour, Gen. Berg said. "Realistically, the special leave would be an incentive only for those men who truly desire to continue in the duty."

Return to the United States with an opportunity to take leave occurs normally at the end of the required tour. Passage of the bill, Gen. Berg said, would make it possible to provide an interruption that would make a longer tour acceptable to these "highly motivated" men.

The general said he was sure the standard 12-month tour seems extremely long to those serving there, but a lesser period would seriously reduce the period of actual effectiveness in the area.

Gen. Berg explained there would be valuable gains in effectiveness in longer tours. "Nevertheless, we consider, and Gen. Westmoreland emphatically agrees, that an involuntary increase in this tour would be inequitable and destructive of morale."

# Future Leadership Role Seen for Young Soldiers

Army has reminded major commanders that today's young soldier will be tomorrow's leader and action should be taken to advance the most outstanding.

More than 70 percent of Army's enlisted will be in the "less than two year's service" category by July 1, 1967. This was revealed in a memorandum from Army Chief of Staff Gen. Harold K. Johnson, who cited Army's continued build-up as one reason.

Gen. Johnson's memo said potential leaders should not be denied responsibility and promotion because they lack in-service experience and extensive training.

These qualities are not absolutely necessary, the message stated. The important thing is that the soldier possess leadership, ability, judgment and initiative.

To assist commanders, Army has asked them to report E-4s through E-8s who are being held back only because they do not fulfill "promotion vacancy" requirements.

*RIBBON CUTTING—Lt. Gen. Lewis W. Walt, USMC, Commanding General, Third Marine Amphibious Force, cuts ribbon officially opening new cargo complex at U.S. Naval Support Activity, DaNang, RVN. Capt. William R. Anderson, CEC, USN (left), and RAdm. Thomas R. Weschler, USN, look on.*

# Automatic Promotion Policy For Some Army E-5s, E-6s

Army E-5s and E-6s with more than 20 years' service and who are now on active duty in one of some 100 critical skills may be immediately promoted one grade.

The critical skills are in Engineer, Medical, Ordnance and Signal fields. Promotions may be made without regard to regular monthly Army-wide quotas. The individual must, however, be recommended for promotion by his unit commander.

This new policy follows Army's voluntary enlisted retired recall program, where certain retirees have also been offered a one-grade promotion to return to active duty.

# AF Reserve, Air Guard Termed Key to RVN Combat Effectiveness

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. McConnell has indicated that the Air Force Reserve and Air National Guard, though not officially called up, are, in effect, the key which enables active duty forces to fight the war in Vietnam.

At the Reserve Officers Assn. Annual Convention, the general also said AF reserve C-119 units will not be phased out as scheduled next year.

In describing reserve contributions, he said, "their crews stand runway alert 24 hours a day, seven days a week. A highly significant job of deterrence is being done by the Air National Guard in flying 52 percent of all air defense intercept missions."

## Combined Fund Campaign Set for Overseas Areas

DOD has directed that a single Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) be conducted in most overseas areas beginning in FY67 to replace three previously held each year.

CFC will cover DOD personnel in all overseas commands, installations and activities except those in Panama, Hawaii and Puerto Rico.

Being combined are the American Overseas Campaign held in the fall, National Health Agencies Campaign in the winter, and the American National Red Cross Campaign in March.

These organizations, along with DOD and the U.S. Civil Service Commission, helped plan the overseas CFC.

## Long-Range AF Radar Operating in Alaska

The U.S. Air Force is operating a long-range radar deep inside Alaska.

Developed by the Air Force Systems Command's Electronic Systems Division at Hanscom Field, Mass., the 10-story high radome-enclosed electronic "eye" can scan Alaskan skies from horizon to horizon. User is Air Defense Command.

The new sky-scanner, located at the Ballistic Missile Early Warning System (BMEWS) site at Clear, Alaska, will complement the missile detection capabilities of existing equipment. The BMEWS site at Clear has been operating since 1961 and is one of three that cover the top of the world for ballistic missile detection purposes.

Greenland and England are the sites of the other BMEWS radars.

## Navy Installs Floodlights For Night Carrier Landings

Navy has installed white floodlighting on the flight decks of ten aircraft carriers in an effort to reduce night carrier landing accidents and improve working conditions for flight deck crews.

*CAPTURED NVN ARMS — Capt. Thomas S. Hoff, an Air Force forward air controller (FAC) looks over some of weapons captured during Operation Hawthorne. Hoff and four other FACs directed since June 2 all air strikes supporting U.S. and RVN troops in operation 300 miles northeast of Saigon.*

## Army Lab Develops Explosive Anchor Fuse

The U.S. Army Mobility Equipment Center's Engineer Research and Development Laboratories, Fort Belvoir, Va., have designed and fabricated a safe, reliable fuse to set off propellant which embeds an explosive anchor deep into the ocean bottom.

The explosive embedment anchor which will use the the fuse is being developed as a mooring component to replace the tremendous weight of ground tackle required in a conventional mooring point. The 4,600 pound experimental anchor can do the job of conventional ground tackle weighing about 33 tons.

Incorporated in a multi-leg mooring system, it will permit safe mooring of tankers, of up to 40,000 dead weight tons under limited sea conditions, while fuel cargos are pumped through submarine pipelines to storage tanks on shore.

## Army 1st Lt.-to-Captain Field Promotions Planned

First lieutenants may be promoted to temporary captain by their field commanders under a new Army policy planned for October.

Authority will be released to certain commanders this fall. It is similar to authority presently granted commanders to make promotions to temporary first lieutenant.

Commands authorized a full colonel or higher as commander will be given promotion authority, unless specifically withheld by a higher commander in the chain of command.

Authorized commanders may make final determination of qualifications and may either approve or disapprove the promotion of recommended officers.

## Air Force Aid Society Fund Drive Set for August

Air Force will conduct its annual Air Force Aid Society fund-raising campaign during August.

Since being organized in 1946 AFAS has loaned or granted about $37 million.

Last year alone, the society spent more than $2 million on various programs, including help for nearly 2,000 handicapped children.

All the society's funds are obtained by membership contributions.

Air Force Aid Society assistance includes emergency financial aid; educational loans; and help in Project CHAP (Children Have A Potential) program.

## Safety Certification Set For Navy Undersea Program

Naval Ship Systems Command will begin conducting material safety certification of Sealab III and the Personnel Transfer Capsule around September at the San Francisco Bay Naval Shipyard, Hunters Point Division.

The certification will involve design and construction phases.

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Price 5 cents (single copy). Subscription Price: $2.50 per year; $3.25 additional for foreign mailing.

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